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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/732,086	12/06/2000	Eric H. Rudolph	MS1-641US	3092

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EXAMINER	
EL CHANTI, HUSSEIN A	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2157	8

DATE MAILED: 03/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/732,086	RUDOLPH, ERIC H.	
	Examin r	Art Unit	
	Hussein A El-chanti	2157	

-- Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondenc address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12/06/2000*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-39* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-39* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *4-7*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to application filed on Dec. 6, 2000. Claims 1-39 are pending examination.

Specification

2. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

3. Pages 8 and 9 do not state the related application numbers. Updated list of related application numbers are required to be submitted by applicant.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-12, 19, 25, 30, 32-35, 38 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Parthasarathy. et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,347,398 (referred to hereafter as Parthasarathy).

As to claim 1, Parthasarathy teaches a method of processing a multi-media editing project comprising:

generating a request for one or more multi-media files for use in a multi-media editing project, the request being generated by a user computer that comprises part of a network where multi-media files are maintained in a network-accessible location (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25);

intercepting the request (see col. 8 lines 19-24);

ascertaining whether a requested multi-media file is located on the user computer (see col. 8 lines 25-28);

retrieving the multi-media file if the file is located on the user computer (see col. 8 lines 25-35); and

seeking the requested file from the network-accessible location if the multi-media file is not located on the user computer (see col. 8 lines 25-35).

As to claim 2, Parthasarathy teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising asking a user to designate a local directory if a requested file is not found on the user computer (see col. 7 lines 65-col. 8 lines 12).

As to claim 3, Parthasarathy teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising asking a user to designate a local directory if a requested file is not found on the user computer, and then searching for the requested file in a designated local directory before seeking the requested file from the network-accessible location (see col. 7 lines 65-col. 8 lines 12 and lines 25-28).

As to claim 4, Parthasarathy teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said ascertaining comprises checking various predetermined file directories on the computer's hard drive (see col. 7 lines 3-25).

As to claim 5, Parthasarathy teaches the method of claim 1, wherein said ascertaining comprises: maintaining a list of directories where multi-media files have been stored in the past; and checking directories on the list for the requested one or more files (see col. 7 lines 3-25 and col. 27 lines 1-37).

As to claim 6, Parthasarathy teaches the method of claim 1, wherein said ascertaining comprises: maintaining a list of directories where multi-media files are stored; and checking directories on the list for the requested one or more files (see col. 7 lines 3-25 and col. 27 lines 1-37).

As to claim 7, Parthasarathy teaches the method of claim 1, wherein said ascertaining comprises: maintaining a list of directories where multi-media files have been stored in the past or are presently stored; and checking directories on the list for the requested one or more files (see col. 7 lines 3-25 and col. 27 lines 1-37).

As to claim 8, Parthasarathy teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising: maintaining a list of directories where multi-media files are stored; and updating the list responsive to receiving and storing a multi-media file in a local directory that is not on the list (see col. 7 lines 3-25 and col. 27 lines 1-37).

As to claim 9, Parthasarathy teaches the method of claim 1 further comprising: maintaining a list of directories where multi-media files are stored; and updating the list responsive to a user designating a local directory that is not on the list (see col. 7 lines 3-25 and col. 27 lines 1-37).

As to claim 10, Parthasarathy teaches one or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, implement the method of claim 1 (see col. 8 lines 10-35).

As to claim 11, Parthasarathy teaches a multi-media project editing application configured for execution on a user computer, the application being configured to implement the method of claim 1 (see col. 8 lines 10-35).

As to claim 12, Parthasarathy teaches a method of processing a multi-media editing project comprising:

maintaining information on a local computer that comprises part of a network having multiple computers, said information being associated with multi-media files that are maintained in a network-accessible location and that can be temporarily stored on the local computer's hard drive (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25); and

responsive to a request to retrieve a multi-media file from the network-accessible location, using the information to attempt to locate the requested file on the local computer's hard drive before attempting to retrieve the file in the network-accessible location (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25).

As to claim 19, Parthasarathy teaches one or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to:

maintain a list on a local computer that comprises part of a network having multiple computers, said list being used to determine which local directories have been used in the past, or are currently being used to stored multi-media files that are

maintained in a network-accessible location (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25); and

responsive to a request to retrieve a multi-media file from the network-accessible location, use the list to first attempt to locate the requested file on the local computer's hard drive (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25).

As to claim 25, Parthasarathy teaches a method of processing a multi-media editing project comprising:

receiving one or more multi-media files from a network-accessible location;

locally storing the one or more multi-media files in a local directory on a user computer for use in a multi-media editing project (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25);

updating a list of local directories that contain or have contained multi-media files in the past in the event that the one or more multi-media files are stored in a local directory that is not contained in the list (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25);

responsive to receiving a request for a multi-media file that is maintained in the network-accessible location (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25):

first checking in all of the local directories on the list of local directories for the requested file (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25); and

second checking the network-accessible location for the requested file in the event the requested file is not found locally (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25).

As to claim 30, Parthasarathy teaches one or more computer-readable media having computer-readable instructions thereon which, when executed by a computer, cause the computer to:

maintain a list of local directories that are or have been used to store multi-media files on a local user computer, the multi-media files being accessible from a network storage location (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25);

generate a request for a multi-media file that is accessible from a network storage location, the request being intended for use in retrieving a multi-media file from the network accessible storage location;

intercept the request;

ascertain a requested file from the request;

first, determine whether the requested file is locally available by checking all of the local directories maintained on the list and retrieve the requested file from a local directory if the file is locally maintained (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25);

second, seek the requested file from the network storage location if the file is not locally maintained (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25);

store the requested file in a local directory if the requested file is retrieved from the network storage location (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25)n; and

update the list to reflect the local directory if the local directory in which the requested file is stored is not on the list (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25).

As to claim 32, Parthasarathy teaches a multi-media editing system comprising:

a multi-media file locator object configured to intercept network-bound requests for multi-media files and determine whether requested files are locally maintained on a user computer (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25); and

a list associated with the file locator object and referencing local file directories on the user computer where multi-media files are stored, the list being used by the file locator object to determine whether requested files are locally maintained on the user computer (see col. 8 lines 10-35 and col. 7 lines 14-25).

As to claim 33, Parthasarathy teaches the system of claim 32, wherein the list references local file directories where files have been maintained in the past (see col. 7 lines 3-25 and col. 27 lines 1-37).

As to claim 34, Parthasarathy teaches the system of claim 32, wherein the locator object is configured to update the list (see col. 7 lines 3-25 and col. 27 lines 1-37).

As to claim 35, Parthasarathy teaches the system of claim 32, wherein the locator object is configured to update the list responsive to a multi-media file being stored in a local directory where multi-media files have not been stored before (see col. 7 lines 3-25 and col. 27 lines 1-37).

As to claim 38, Parthasarathy teaches the system of claim 32, wherein the locator object comprises a COM object (see col. 6 lines 25-67).

As to claim 39, Parthasarathy teaches the system of claim 32, wherein the locator object comprises an object-oriented object (see col. 6 lines 25-67).

5. Claims 13-18, 20-24, 26-29, 31, 36 and 37 do not teach or define any additional limitation over claims 1-12, 19, 25, 30 and 32-35 and therefore are rejected for similar reasons.

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- System For Manipulating And Updating Data Objects With Remote Data Sources Automatically And Seamlessly by Toh et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,128,652.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hussein A El-chanti whose telephone number is (703)305-4652. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (703)308-7562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Hussein El-chanti

March 8, 2004

ARIO ETIENNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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